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**Go Bulldogs!**

**A Note From Principal Parker**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to John Dewey Metropolitan High School! Our administrators, teachers, and staff are excited to meet your students and help them to become successful and productive young adults. Here at J.D.M. High School, we take education seriously and look forward to instilling your children with the confidence to become active learners and lifelong knowledge-seekers based on the theories and ideas of Progressivist John Dewey. Dewey believed students learn best when they feel connected to the information and when they contribute to each other’s learning. Based on these beliefs, we focus on having the students work together and help them see the connections between what they are learning today and how it will benefit them in the future. We know that students learn more effectively and have more fun when they have an interest in what they are learning, so we give them the privilege and responsibility to contribute to the direction of their own learning. We want to know what they care about, what they enjoy, and what they want to do in the future and encourage them to incorporate the knowledge they gain into their everyday lives and aspirations for their bright futures.

Sincerely,

Francis Parker

All my Best,

**Francis Parker**

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John Dewey Metropolitan High School

*J.D. High’s mission is to facilitate an environment that promotes essential problem solving and critical thinking skills resulting in active community leaders.*

J.D. High welcomes Michael Cobb to the Language Arts community. Mr. Cobb previously resided in Boston where he received his MA in Political Science and Education and was co-chair of the School Board from 2006-2010 in Zone 11. As the co-editor of *Education in Action: On Merging Students, Civics and Literature.* Mr. C brings to the table knowledge and passion for civic responsibility from a Language Arts perspective. Along with facilitating the 9th and 11th grade literature classes, Mr. Cobb will be the head coordinator of the school’s voting booths. An avid participant in theatre productions throughout his life, he looks to encourage students to go beyond the text and find an opportunity to “relate their personal experiences to each step of the protagonist” through local theater and literary readings.

Your Vote Counts At J.H. High!

Students! Be informed and prepared to vote on the school activities below!

* Prom Themes
* Guest Assembly Speakers
* Fundraisers Ideas
* Plants for Garden
* Student Body

J.D. Metropolitan High School’s progressive shift opened a multitude of doors for the Language Arts curricula. Acknowledging that each student is shaped by his or her experiences, units are designed to reach out and engage the individual learner. Students will enter the world prepared with an enduring understanding of the many possibilities literature provides, and the responsibility each citizen has to utilize them.

Each class will offer a variety of fiction and nonfiction pieces written by local authors, authors advocating social reform, members of Oregon State Legislature, and individually chosen authors of the students’ interests. This will allow students to investigate the ways literature relates to themselves and their environment.

Writing techniques will involve creative forms of expression, writing with a purpose and co-writing a play within a group. Students will research a political topic of personal interest to them and write a persuasive letter to their Senator. They will explain, in depth, their reasoning for the importance of their topic and suggestions the Senator should consider.

A freshman specific project will require students to design a reach-out program to a group of people they feel lacks access to rich, literary resources. This may be a hospital, retirement home, hospice, preschool -students will decide the highest need through research and inquiry. While teachers will be available to provide guidance, students will be in charge of contacting the business with their proposal and maintaining their program throughout the year.

As a Language Arts community, we desire to engage your students in every way. We are currently connecting with community members to establish possible day trips to Ashton’s Shakespeare Festival, Portland Center for Performing Arts and many more. After consulting with students, we will notify you of our day trip selections and dates. We warmly welcome any questions or comments or better your student’s education at J.D. High.

# What’s Happening in Language Arts?

Spotlight on Mr. Cobb